
INFORMAL MINUTES OF MEETING OF DIRECTOR, INTERDEPARTMENTAL
FOREIGN INFORMATION ORGANIZATION AND CONSULTANTS ON MONDAY
OCTOBER 30, 1950, IN OFFICE OF DIRECTOR

PRESENT: Department of State - Mr. Barrett, Director
Mr. Stone, Executive Secretary
Mr. MacKnight
Mr. Hulten
Department of Defense - General Magruder
Joint Chiefs of Staff - Col. Hopkins
Department of the Army - General McClure
Lt. Col. Davis
Central Intelligence Agency -
National Security Resources Board - Mr. Sheppard
Economic Cooperation Administration - Mr. Berding

Before turning to the first item of the agenda, Mr. Barrett asked whether it would be possible to schedule an evening meeting on Monday, November 6. It was agreed that a special evening meeting would be held on this date and that the regular afternoon meeting on the same date would be postponed.

With regard to item I, Mr. MacKnight made a brief report on the survey mission which is being sent to Germany at the request of HICOG to study and report on the current information and propaganda program in Germany. The survey team is composed of Dr. Hans Speier of RAND Corporation, Mr. Wallace Carroll and Mr. Henry Kellerman of the State Department. Mr. MacKnight circulated copies of the instructions to the survey team.

At the request of Mr. Barrett, Mr. MacKnight also reported briefly on a State Department team which is being sent to Korea to collect information and intelligence useful in current and future information programs in the Far East and material for use by the UN Commission. He noted that Mr. Arthur Goodfriend, who is making a field survey of information methods and techniques in the Far East for the State Department has also been sent to Korea to advise on South East Asia requirements for propaganda material which might be supplied from Korea.

With reference to Korea, General McClure suggested that a useful purpose might be served by a UN sponsored report on our treatment of North Korean prisoners of war in conformity with the Geneva Conference. Such a report might be undertaken by the international Red Cross or a neutral country like Sweden. Mr. Barrett agreed that this was a useful suggestion and should be explored further.

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Commenting on a report from Korea, Mr. Barrett suggested that Col. Bonnaker, Col. Young and Mr. Brad Connors meet together to review their findings and report on points which should be brought to the attention of the Board. It was agreed that this should be done.

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With respect to item II, [] reported briefly on documents relating to Japanese psychological warfare efforts in the Far East in the last war. He noted that very little existed in the way of finished materials but that the following materials were available for research: (1) the records of the Ministry of Information of the Japanese Government, such records currently being in Tokyo and under the control of General Willoughby, G-2, FECOM, (2) record maintained by FCC and subsequently FBID, [] of the monitored broadcasts of Japanese radio propaganda beginning in 1941; (3) miscellaneous documents in governmental agencies in Washington and in non-governmental research institutions in the United States. The Board approved [] suggestion that he request a survey be made of the extent and nature of available materials on this subject and thereafter make a report to the board. 25X1A

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With regard to German psychological warfare against the USSR in World War II, [] reported that he had made a preliminary survey and ascertained that numerous documents were available on this subject but that they were neither collected into one place nor had any definitive research been accomplished with regard to them. The Board approved [] suggestion that he cause a survey to be made of the extent and nature of available materials on this subject and thereafter make a report to the Board. 25X1A

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With respect to item III, General Magruder and Col. Hopkins submitted minor changes in the statement on procedures for coordination of guidances. The Executive Secretary was requested to ask [] to work out an acceptable wording with []

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Before turning to item IV on the agenda, Mr. Barrett noted that informal discussion of Defense Department comments on NSC 74 had revealed differences on certain points which would probably have to be resolved at higher levels. Pending settlement of these differences, he hoped we could make the present organization function as effectively as possible and urged that members inform Mr. Stone of any matters which they wished to have placed on the agenda for discussion.

Mr. Hulten reported briefly on his trip to South America, where he attended the meeting of Public Affairs Officers at Rio de Janeiro. He commended on his observations in Brazil, Uruguay and Argentina.

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Mr. Berding reported on his trip to Europe where he visited eleven capitals, attended a meeting of ECA and USIS officers from four European countries and participated in a meeting of the OLEC information committee in Paris. Mr. Berding called attention to the problem of securing use of five percent counterpart funds which are currently being permitted for purchase of strategic materials. Mr. Barrett asked Mr. Hulten to review this matter with the Bureau of the Budget.

With respect to item 4, Mr. Stone reported that the IFIS working group had revised the body of the Korea Plan and the content enclosures over the weekend, but that IFIS had not yet completed its staff review of the plan as a whole. He noted again that IFIS felt it should complete its staff work before the plan is acted upon by the Board.

Lt. Col. Davis summarized the several sections of the plan, noting the major changes which had been incorporated in the revision. After general discussion of the procedure for handling the Korea Plan, it was agreed that IFIS should complete its revision of the present draft and forward the plan to the Director and Consultants this week. Mr. Barrett proposed that if the plan could be cleared before the end of the week, it should be forwarded as a whole to Tokyo for comments. It was agreed that if there are delays in securing full concurrence, the policy content enclosures could be issued as guidances. It was further agreed to reserve time for a special meeting on Friday, November 3, if necessary.

Mr. Stone called attention to the paper prepared by IFIS on "National Psychological Warfare Plans -- Analysis of Major Categories and Requirements."

25X1A [] called attention to an article in the "Wall Street Journal" purporting to describe certain foreign activities of the Government and asked whether the State Department felt that a security breach was involved. Mr. Barrett said the State Department had reviewed the article, which was something of a hodge-podge of information which might have been drawn from various sources. Although there may have been some breach of security, the consensus was that it would be difficult, if not impossible, to trace specific items to classified government documents. [] indicated that this answer was satisfactory.

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